UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/428,679	10/27/1999	ADAM L. SELIGMAN	P98-1866	4978

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EXAMINER
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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2672	

DATE MAILED: 03/08/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 07-01)

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3__ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____ .

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-22* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-22* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

    If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

    1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

    2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

    3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

    a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: .

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the

rejections under this section made in this Office action:

       A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

       (a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed
       publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

2.   Claims 1-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Hoppe, U.S. Patent No. 5,963,209.

3.   As per claim 1, Hoppe teaches a method for rendering three dimensional scenes, comprising: sending a

request from a first computer (client) to a second computer (server), wherein the request identifies a three

dimensional object to be rendered (column 17 lines 49-60); creating a level of detail (LOD) representation of the

three dimensional object on the second computer (column 17 lines 33-40); returning the LOD representation of the

three dimensional object from the second computer to the first computer, thereby allowing the first computer to

display an image of the three dimensional object (column 17 lines 34-40 and 49-60).

4.   As per claim 2, Hoppe teaches distributing the three dimensional object from the first computer to the

second computer; and associating an identifier with the three dimensional object (column 17 lines 49-60).

5.   As per claim 3, Hoppe teaches inserting the three dimensional object into a database available to the second

computer; and displaying the LOD representation of the three dimensional object in a three dimensional scene on the

first computer (column 17 line 49-60).

6.   As per claim 4, Hoppe teaches wherein the request includes a specified level of detail for the three

dimensional object (column 17 lines 34-40).

7.   As per claim 5, Hoppe teaches wherein the creating step includes creating a progressive mesh

representation of the three-dimensional object with the specified level of detail as contained in the request (column

17 lines 34-40).

8.   As per claim 6, Hoppe teaches a method for utilizing a network of computers to render a three dimensional

scene, comprising: sending a plurality of request from a first computer to a plurality of other computers over a

network (column 17 lines 49-60), wherein the requests identify three dimensional objects to be rendered (column 17

column 17 lines 49-60); on each of the plurality of other computers, creating a LOD representation of the three

dimensional objects received from the first computer (column 17 lines 49-60); and returning the LOD

representations of the three dimensional objects from the plurality of other computers to the first computer, thereby

allowing the first computer to display an image of the three dimensional objects (column 17 lines 49-60).

9.   As per claim 7, Hoppe teaches distributing the three dimensional objects from the first computer to the

plurality of other computer; and associating identifiers with the three dimensional objects (column 17 lines 34-40).

10.   As per claim 8, Hoppe teaches on each of the plurality of other computers, inserting the three dimensional

objects into at least one database accessible by each of the plurality of other computers; and displaying the LOD

representation of the three dimensional objects in a three dimensional scene on the first computer (column 17 lines

34-40 and 49-60).

11.   As per claim 9, Hoppe teaches wherein the request include a specified level of detail for the three

dimensional objects (column 17 lines 34-40).

12.   As per claim 10, Hoppe teaches wherein the creating step includes creating LOD representations of the

three dimensional objects with the specified level of detail as contained in the requests (column 17 lines 34-40 and

49-60).

13.   As per claim 11, Hoppe teaches receiving an input from a user on the first computer (client); processing the

input to determine a first three dimensional scene that corresponds with the input; and receiving subsequent inputs

from the user and processing the inputs to determine subsequent three dimensional scenes that correspond with the

subsequent inputs, wherein the user interactively controls the display of the subsequent three dimensional scenes by

his subsequent inputs (column 17 lines 34-40 and 49-60).

14.   As per claim 12, Hoppe teaches a computer system for rendering a three dimensional scene, comprising: a

visualization console (client computer); a plurality of workstations, connected to the visualization console by a

network, wherein the visualization console and the plurality of workstations operate together, wherein; the

visualization console sends a plurality of request to the plurality of workstations over the network, wherein the

request identify three dimensional objects to be rendered (column 17 lines 34-40 and 49-60); the workstations create

LOD representations of the three dimensional objects received from the visualization console (column 17 lines 34-

40 and 49-60); and the workstations return the LOD representations of the three dimensional objects to the

visualization console, thereby allowing the visualization console to render an image of the three dimensional object (column 17 lines 34-40 and 49-60).

15.   As per claim 13, Hoppe teaches wherein the visualization console distributes three dimensional objects to the plurality of workstations over the network, and the workstations associate identifiers with the three dimensional objects (column 17 lines 34-40 and 49-60).

16.   As per claim 14, Hoppe teaches wherein each of the workstations inserts the three dimensional objects into at least one database accessible by each of the workstations and the visualization console displays the LOD representation of the three dimensional objects in a three dimensional scene (column 17 lines 49-60).

17.   As per claim 15, Hoppe teaches wherein the request include a specified level of detail for the three dimensional objects (column 17 lines 49-60).

18.   As per claim 16, Hoppe teaches wherein the workstations create LOD representations of the three dimensional objects with the specified level of detail as contained in the requests (column 17 lines 34-40 and 49-60).

19.   As per claim 17, Hoppe teaches a computer system for rendering a three dimensional scene, comprising: a visualization console (client, column 17 lines 34-40); a plurality of workstations, connected to the visualization console by a network (column 17 lines 49-60); means for sending a plurality of request to the plurality of workstations over the network, wherein the request identify three dimensional objects to be rendered (column 17 lines 49-60); means for creating a LOD representation of the three dimensional objects received from the visualization console (column 17 lines 49-60); and means for returning the LOD representations of the three dimensional objects to the visualization console, thereby allowing the visualization console to display an image of the three dimensional object (column 17 lines 49-60).

20.   As per claim 18, Hoppe teaches means for distributing three dimensional objects to the plurality of workstations over the network; and means for associating associate identifiers with the three dimensional objects (column 17 lines 34-40 and 49-60).

21.   As per claim 19, Hoppe teaches means for inserting the three dimensional objects into databases accessible by each of the workstations; and means for displaying the LOD representation of the three dimensional objects in a three dimensional scene (column 17 lines 49-60)

22.   As per claim 20, Hoppe teaches wherein the requests include a specified level of detail for the three dimensional objects (column 17 lines 34-40 and 49-60).

23.   As per claim 21, Hoppe teaches means for creating LOD representations of the three dimensional objects with the specified level of detail as contained in the requests on the workstations (column 17 lines 34-40 and 49-60).

24.   As per claim 22, Hoppe teaches means for receiving an input from a user on the first computer; means for processing the input to determine a first three dimensional scene that corresponds with the input; and means for receiving subsequent inputs from the user and processing the inputs to determine subsequent three dimensional scenes that correspond with the subsequent inputs, wherein the user interactively controls the display of the subsequent three dimensional scenes by his subsequent inputs (column 17 lines 34-40 and 49-60).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Scott Wallace** whose telephone number is **703-605-5163**.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Michael Razavi**, can be reached at 703-305-4713.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

MICHAEL RAZAVI
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600